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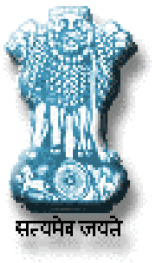
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(2009-10)

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation)

NINETEENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

April, 2010/ Chaitra, 1932 (Saka)

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NINETEENTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(2009-2010)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 19 April, 2010
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 19 April, 2010

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COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE – 2009-2010

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi - Chairman

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4. Shri C.M. Chang
5. Shri Harishchandra Chavan
6. Shri Bhakta Charan Das
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29. Dr. Mahendra Prasad
30. Shri Y.P. Trivedi
31. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri A.K. Singh	-	Joint Secretary
2.	Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar	-	Additional Director

* Nominated to this Committee w.e.f. 09.03.2010 vice Shri Gopinath Munde, MP

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Nineteenth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

2. The Fourth Report (15th Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha/laid in Rajya Sabha on 2 December, 2009. Replies indicating action taken on all the recommendations contained in the Report were furnished by the Government on 8 January, 2010.

3. The Committee considered and adopted this report at their sitting held on 15 April, 2010.

4. An analysis of action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Committee is given in the Appendix.

5. For facility of reference, observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

New Delhi;
15 April, 2010
25 Chaitra, 1932 (Saka)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Finance.

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CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Finance deals with action taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in their Fourth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, which was presented to Lok Sabha on 2 December, 2009 and simultaneously laid in Rajya Sabha on the same day.

2. The Action taken notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the 8 recommendations contained in the Report. These have been analysed and categorised as follows:

(i) Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government:

Recommendation Nos.2, 3, 4, 6 and 8

(Total: 5)
(Chapter-II)

(ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:

Nil

(Total : Nil)
(Chapter-III)

(iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Recommendation Nos. 1, 5 and 7

(Total: 3)
(Chapter-IV)

(iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:

Nil

(Total : Nil)
(Chapter-V)

3. The Committee desire that the replies of the observations contained in Chapter I be furnished to them expeditiously.

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4. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of their recommendations.

A. Budgetary Allocation

Recommendation (Sl. No.1)

5. There was a huge shortfall in utilization of the budgeted expenditure of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in the last three years. The shortfall witnessed in the Plan Expenditure as compared to the budgeted estimates was to the extent of Rs. 27.76 crore (33%) in 2006-2007, Rs.22.01 crore (24%) in 2007-2008 and Rs.54.60 crore (42% - anticipated) in 2008-2009. What the Committee found to be worrisome was that the under utilization of the budgeted plan funds of the Ministry has been mainly on account of slippages in implementing schemes that have a significant bearing on improving the reliability and adequacy of statistics. Emphasizing that it was necessary on the part of the Government to undertake an effective exercise for identifying the shortcomings in the mechanism of budgetary planning and ensuring proper utilization of funds so as to avoid large variations in the Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and actual expenditure, the Committee wanted to be apprised of the concrete steps taken in this direction and their effectiveness in overcoming the shortcomings in a time bound programme.

6. The Government in their action taken reply stated as under :-

> "The delay in operationalising the Central Training Facility at Greater Noida was entirely due to delay on the part of CPWD in handling over the building to this Ministry. The building was supposed to be handed over to the Ministry by the CPWD in October 2008 but the handling over after rectification of all defects was finally done by the CPWD only in Feb. 2009.
>
> The Plan scheme "India Statistical Strengthening Project" could not be taken up for implementation in 2007-08 & 2008-09 due to procedural delays which came in the way of EFC approval of the scheme.
>
> The Planning Commission did not accord clearance for operationalising the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) 'Basic Statistics for Local Level Development' as a full fledged scheme in the 11th Plan. As per the advice of the Planning Commission, instead a pilot scheme was implemented with the same name with the objective of identifying the data sources at village level. This was launched in 2008-09 and was implemented in 32 States/UTs. The outlay provided by Planning Commission was Rs. 5.00 Crore during 2008-09,

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which was revised to Rs. 4.09 Crore in the RE Stage. Actual expenditure was Rs. 3.20 Crore.

It is submitted to the Hon'ble Committee that in spite of the best efforts by this Ministry to adhere to stipulated schedules and ensure optimum utilization of plan funds, slippages which have occurred are entirely beyond the control of this Ministry."

7. The emphasis made by the Committee has been on identifying and overcoming the shortcomings in the mechanism of budgetary planning in a time bound manner so that the under-utilization of budgeted funds for plan projects and wide variations in the budget estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditure being witnessed do not continue to recur. Instead of highlighting the measures taken or proposed for ensuring that the plan projects are taken up for implementation as scheduled, the Ministry have chosen to attribute the delays and the consequent underutilization of budgeted funds to the want of necessary approvals. The Committee do not find the tenor of the action taken note of the Ministry which is inclined towards absolving themselves of the responsibility for delays in project implementation to be acceptable. The fact that the shortfall in the plan expenditure of the Ministry has been to the extent of 33% in 2006-07, 24% in 2007-08 and as much as 42% in 2008-09 calls for initiating immediate and concrete measures by the Ministry for ensuring that the budgeted funds are not locked up because of want of approvals as in the case of India Statistical Strengthening Project and the Scheme, Basic Statistics for Local Level Development. Delay in handing over the Central Training Facility by CPWD which has been cited as a contributory factor for underutilization of the budgeted funds is also untenable as the building

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works were completed within the financial year, 2009-10, with a time lag of a few months. The Committee, therefore, reiterate the need for initiating appropriate remedial measures for overcoming the shortcomings in the budgetary planning which could inter-alia include, proposing budget allocations for projects only after obtaining all necessary clearances so that the scarce resources do not remain blocked. The Committee desire that a detailed account of the measures to be taken up by the Ministry for ensuring that the budgeted funds are not locked up and surrendered later on, may be furnished.

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B. India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2)

8. Significant budgetary allocations being made for the World Bank aided India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) each year continued to remained underutilized and later surrendered due to the frequent rescheduling of the project. While the actual amount expended on the project was only Rs. 55.90 lakh during 2007-08, the budgeted amount was raised to Rs. 30 crore in 2008-09, which was left unutilized. Although the necessary approvals remained to be obtained for implementing the project, the budget allocation for the year, 2009-10 was enhanced to as much as Rs. 100 crore. The Committee were of the considered view that the project, with an approximate cost of Rs. 700-750 crore could very well have been financed by the Government thereby avoiding the prolonged and procrastinated discussions with the World Bank, a fact also agreed to by the Secretary. The ISSP being conceived with the aim of developing and strengthening the State statistical systems in terms of infrastructure facilities and providing reliable, timely and credible socio-economic statistics, the Committee expected the Ministry to urgently address the pending issues pertaining to conceptualizing the same for implementation with clarity, obtain necessary approvals, and ensure that the project was taken up for implementation without any further delay. The Committee desired to be kept apprised of the progress made in this direction. The Committee also expected that dependence on foreign or World Bank loans for such an important project should be avoided particularly in view of the fact that correct statistical data were extremely important for economic, social and strategic planning.

9. The Government in their Action taken reply stated as under :-

> "The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) of the Government of India has since recommended 'India Statistical Strengthening Project' (ISSP) as a centrally sponsored scheme during the remaining part of the Eleventh Plan period (2007-12), at an estimated cost of Rs. 650.43 crores (Rupees six hundred and fifty cores and forty three lakhs only), of which 80% would be funded through a World Bank loan and 20% would be borne by the Government of India. Thereafter, the requisite approval for the scheme has been accorded by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India. This apart, the required negotiations for the project between the Government of

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India and the World Bank were completed during the period September 14-16, 2009 at New Delhi. Presently, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is awaiting the approval of the full Planning Commission response and subsequently the approval of CCEA will be sought.

The World Bank was approached by the Government of India earlier for providing assistance to ISSP not only in terms of financial support but also, equally importantly, with a view to benefiting optimally from the rich experience which has been acquired, over the years, by the World Bank in terms of technically assisting several countries world-wide through their STATCAP (Statistical Capacity Building) Programme to help them develop professionally sound and sustainable National Statistical System which can adequately and effectively take care of meeting not only the current unmet demands and requirements for data but also the emerging/future requirements for statistical services and products."

10. The Committee feel constrained to note that the World Bank aided India Statistical Strengthening Project estimated to cost Rs. 650 crore is yet to be cleared by the Planning Commission and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). Consequently, as in the year 2008-09, the Budget allocation of Rs. 100 crore made for the project during the year 2009-10 is likely to remain unutilized. Also, while the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had submitted to the Committee that the project could very well have been financed by the Government without dependence on World Bank aid, as per the action taken note, the World Bank assistance is expected to help in developing professionally sound and sustainable National Statistical System. The Committee are further constrained to note that even after the completion of 10th Five Year Plan the Government do not have a rigorous and reliable statistical system. In the absence of reliable data, which is extremely essential for framing any policy and plan documents, all plan projections will become uncertain or even unreliable. Considering the fact that the project has been languishing since long with the

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budgeted funds surrendered year after year, the Committee desire to be furnished with a factual note detailing the nature and conditionalities of the World Bank assistance for the project, the benefits that have accrued and are likely to accrue with the assistance, the current status of the project and the Ministry's plan of action for implementing the project within one month of the presentation of this report to Parliament.

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C. Shortage of Manpower

Recommendation (Sl. No.3)

11. The Committee noted with serious concern that the sample size for NSSO Surveys has remained unchanged in the last 20 years despite the manifold increase in population. As per the Secretary, MOSPI's submission, shortage of manpower was the main reason for the inability in increasing the sample size of the surveys. The Committee recommended that for overcoming the problem, the desirability of appropriately revising the methods and conditions of recruitment without compromising the requisite standards and relaxing the limit on filling the number of direct vacancies in a year needed to be taken up by the Ministry with the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT). The Committee expressed trust that these measures combined with the policy of engaging qualified and trained investigators on contract would address the problem of shortage of manpower for carrying out the NSSO field surveys.

12. The Government in their Action Taken Note have inter-alia stated as under :

> "The no. of vacancies in Statistical Investigation Grade I (filled through promotions) and Grade II (filled through recruitment) are 102 and 892, respectively as on1.12.2009.
>
> The recruitment / promotion of these officials are done by the Subordinate Statistical Service Cadre Control Authority (SSS CCA). As such, NSSO (FOD) has no role in this regard.
>
> Amendment of RRs can be a solution to enable overcoming the problems which is also the responsibility of the Cadre Controlling Authority of the SSS.
>
> Meanwhile, measures have been taken to recruit contract investigators for addressing the problem of acute shortage of manpower recently for carrying out various field surveys. IN the current year 600 investigators for UFS, 616 investigators for SE, 126 investigators for NREGA and 227 investigators for WPI have been recruited on contract basis through campus interview conducted in the state capitals."

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13. While, as per the action taken note, amending the rules relating to recruitment of statistical investigators is agreed to as being an effective measure for overcoming the problem of shortage of manpower, the Ministry does not seem to have taken any initiatives towards this end. Though the recruitment rules and the amendments thereto are in the administrative domain of the Subordinate Statistical Service Cadre Control Authority (SSS CCA), it is imperative on part of the Ministry to take up the matter of amendments required thereto with the Cadre Controlling Authority so as to enable in overcoming the problem of shortage of manpower, which is presently said to be hindering the work of NSSO with the sample size of the Surveys remaining unchanged in the last 20 years despite the manifold increase in population. The Committee, therefore, expect the Ministry to take up the matter with the cadre controlling authority concerned as well as the Department of Personnel and Training and apprise them of the outcome thereof. The Committee also express trust that filling up the vacant positions of statistical investigators by amending the recruitment rules combined with the policy of recruiting contract investigators will enable in addressing the problem of shortage of manpower.

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D. Monitoring of Projects

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5)

14. In the context of delay and cost escalation in implementation of the 232 Central Sector Projects scheduled for completion in 2008-09, the Committee had recommended that appropriate corrective steps should be taken for addressing issues contributing to delays and cost escalation in implementing projects. The Committee also desired to be apprised of the action taken against those held responsible for the lapses which led to cost escalation and time overrun of the projects.

15. The Govt. in their Action taken reply have inter-alia stated as under :-

> "In view of the changed facts the Hon'ble Committee is hereby informed that as on 30.6.2009, 951 Central Sector Projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above are on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 466 projects with respect to their approved completion schedule. The cost overrun of these delayed projects is of the order of Rs. 37,693 crore which is only 11.97% of the approved cost. It is also informed that overall cost overrun in all projects together has been continuously declining from 62% in March 1991 to 12.10% in June, 2009 which is the lowest so far. As already informed earlier, appropriate corrective measures have been taken by the Government to eradicate deficiencies in project formulation and implementation, obtain all clearances and acquire land as far as possible to avoid delays in implementation….. In regard to the fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns in projects, it is again being informed that a mechanism of Standing Committees has been set up in the Ministries chaired by the Secretary or Additional Secretary of the concerned administrative Ministry with members drawn from the Planning Commission, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Ministry of Finance. The Committee goes into the reasons and the factors and identifies individual or the agencies responsible for causing delays and cost overrun. The recommendations of the Committee are implemented by the administrative Ministries and thereafter the revised cost estimates are submitted for approval of the Government."

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16. The Committee note that the Ministry in their action taken note have simply detailed the procedure in regard to fixing responsibility for time and cost over-runs in projects. Nothing has been mentioned by the Ministry about the action taken against those held responsible for the lapses which led to cost escalation and time overrun of the projects. The Ministry do not appear to have taken the matter seriously and have rather chosen to remain silent on the issue. The Committee are constrained to note that as on 30.6.2009 out of 951 Central Sector Projects, implementation of about 485 projects has been delayed with concurrent cost overruns, amounting to more than 50% of the total Central Sector projects, despite the corrective measures informed to have been taken by the Ministry. While taking a serious view in the matter, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire that corrective steps be taken for addressing the recurring problem of delays and cost escalation in implementation of projects. The Committee also expect to be apprised of the action taken against those responsible for the lapses which led to cost escalation and time overrun of the projects within one month of the presentation of this Report to Parliament.

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E. Price Indices
Recommendation (Sl. No. 7)

17. The Committee were constrained to note that despite the repeated assurance given to the Committee by the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the process of compiling and bringing out separate Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas [CPI (Urban) and CPI (Rural)] was yet to materialize. The inordinate delay in formulating the Consumer Price Indices and the abnormal variations witnessed in the prices of food items in particular had necessitated shifting the base year of the proposed indices to 2009. Having a realistic projection of the consumer inflation in the country being an urgent necessity, the Committee expected that the Ministry would, at least now, take stringent measures for expediting the work of compilation of the separate Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas.

18. The Govt. in their Action taken reply stated as follows :-

> "CPI (Urban) would be compiled for each State/UT as well as at all India level. Weighting diagrams (consumption pattern) of the CPI (Urban) have been derived from the results of the NSS 61st round of Consumer Expenditure Survey (2004-05). All cities/towns having population (2001 Population Census) more than 9 lakh and all state/UT capitals not covered therein were selected purposively. In all 310 towns have been selected either on purposive or random basis from which 1114 quotations (price schedules) are canvassed every month.
>
> Regular price and rent data are being collected by the NSSO (FOD). After selection of base year and also compilation of base year prices, new series of CPI (Urban) would be compiled. It is expected that trial indices of CPI (Urban) would be available in 2010.
>
> CPI (Rural) would also be compiled for all states/UTs and all India. Weighting diagrams of the CPI (Rural) have also been derived from the results of the NSS 61st round of Consumer Expenditure Survey (2004-05). With a view to have a workload within manageable limits and considering the fact that the CPI (Rural) would provide the price changes for the entire rural population of the country, a total of 1183 villages have been selected at all India level. The broad criterion of selection of villages is to have representation of all the districts with in State/UT and therefore two villages from each district adjusted on the basis of rural population of the State/UT have been selected randomly from different tehsils.

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As field investigators of NSSO (FOD) were not available for price collection in the rural areas, this work has been entrusted to the Department of Posts. After training by NSSO (FOD), price data collection work has started from October 2009. It is expected that trial indices of CPI (Rural) would be available in the beginning of 2011."

19. The Committee regret to note that there has been an inordinate delay in formulating the new series of Consumer Price Indices, despite the repeated assurance given in the matter by the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. While the Ministry, in the information furnished to the Committee in the course of examination of the Demands for Grants (2009-10) had stated that it has been agreed in principle to have 2009 as the base year for CPI (Urban) and CPI (Rural) subject to further examination of price data pertaining to 2009 as per the action taken note, the base year for the revised price indices remains to be finalized. The Committee had also, in their 6th Report on 'Inflation and Price Rise', inter-alia recommended that the Government should expedite the work of compilation of new series of nation-wide Consumer Price Index (CPI) for urban and rural areas as a prelude to formulating a national CPI. Evidently, the Ministry has been lagging on this issue. The Committee, therefore, expect that the Ministry takes serious efforts in concretizing the work of compilation of separate Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas without any further delay. The Committee desire to be apprised with a detailed account of the progress made in this regard.

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CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation No. 2

INDIA STATISTICAL STRENGTHENING PROJECT (ISSP)

Significant budgetary allocations being made for the World Bank aided India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) each year continue to remain underutilized and later surrendered due to the frequent rescheduling of the project. While the actual amount expended on the project was only Rs. 55.90 lakh during 2007-08, the budgeted amount was raised to Rs. 30 crore in 2008-09, which was left unutilized. Surprisingly, although the necessary approvals remain to be obtained for implementing the project, the budget allocation for the current year, 2009-10 has been enhanced to as much as Rs. 100 crore. Earlier, the Committee had, in their 70th Report on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry (2008-09) stressed on undertaking the project for implementation in right earnest. Lack of clarity on the part of the Ministry on the nature of intervention required for strengthening the Statistical systems of the States, and unfamiliarity of the World Bank in extending loans to such projects have been cited by the Secretary, MOSPI as the factors responsible for the undue delay in implementing the project. The Committee are of the considered view that the project, with an approximate cost of Rs. 700-750 crore could very well have been financed by the Government thereby avoiding the prolonged and procrastinated discussions with the World Bank, a fact also agreed to by the Secretary. The ISSP being conceived with the aim of developing and strengthening the State statistical systems in terms of infrastructure facilities and providing reliable, timely and credible socio-economic statistics, the Committee expect the Ministry to urgently address the pending issues pertaining to conceptualizing the same for implementation with clarity, obtain necessary approvals, and ensure that the project is taken up for implementation without any further delay. The Committee desire to be kept apprised of the progress made in this direction. The Committee also expect that dependence on foreign or World Bank loans for such an important project should be avoided particularly in view of the fact that correct statistical data are extremely important for economic, social and strategic planning.

Reply of the Government

The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) of the Government of India has since recommended 'India Statistical Strengthening Project' (ISSP) as a centrally sponsored scheme during the remaining part of the Eleventh Plan period (2007-12) , at an estimated cost of Rs.650.43 crores (Rupees six hundred and fifty crores and forty three lakhs only), of which 80% would be funded through a World Bank loan and 20% would be borne by the Government of India. Thereafter, the requisite approval for the scheme has been accorded by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India. This apart, the required negotiations for the project between the Government of India and the World Bank were completed during the period September 14-16, 2009 at New Delhi. Presently, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme

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Implementation is awaiting the approval of the full Planning Commission response and subsequently the approval of CCEA will be sought.

The World Bank was approached by the Government of India earlier for providing assistance to ISSP not only in terms of financial support but also, equally importantly, with a view to benefitting optimally from the rich experience which has been acquired, over the years, by the world Bank in terms of technically assisting several countries world-wide through their STATCAP (Statistical Capacity Building) Programme to help them develop professionally sound and sustainable National Statistical Systems which can adequately and effectively take care of meeting not only the current unmet demands and requirements for data but also the emerging/future requirements for statistical services and products.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

Recommendation no. 3

SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER

It is a matter of surprise and serious concern that the sample size for NSSO Surveys has remained unchanged in the last 20 years despite the manifold increase in population. As per the Secretary, MOSPI's submission, shortage of manpower has been cited as the main reason for the inability in increasing the sample size of the surveys. As stated by the Secretary, of the total staff strength of 3200, the existing vacancies were around 800, which amount to about 25% of the total sanctioned posts. The Committee had, in their 70th Report on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry (2008-09) taken cognizance of the issue of shortage of manpower, for overcoming which, it was inter-alia suggested that the method of campus recruitment needs to be considered, and the issue of filling up the vacant posts pursued with the Staff Selection Commission. Apart from pursuing these approaches, the Committee would recommend that for overcoming the problem, the desirability of appropriately revising the methods and conditions of recruitment without compromising the requisite standards and relaxing the limit on filling the number of direct vacancies in a year need to be taken up by the Ministry with the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT). The Committee trust that these measures combined with the policy of engaging qualified and trained investigators on contract would address the problem of shortage of manpower for carrying out the NSSO field surveys.

Reply of the Government

1) The no. of vacancies in Statistical Investigators Grade I (filled through promotions) and Grade II (filled through recruitment) are 102 and 892, respectively as on 1.12.2009.

2) The recruitment / promotion of these officials are done by the Subordinate Statistical Service Cadre Controlling Authority (SSS CCA). As such. NSSO (FOD) has no role in this regard.

3) Amendment of RRs can be a solution to enable overcoming the problems which is also the responsibility of the Cadre Controlling Authority of the SSS.

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4) Meanwhile, measures have been taken to recruit contract investigators for addressing the problem of acute shortage of manpower recently for carrying out various field surveys. In the current year 600 investigators for UFS, 616 investigators for SE, 126 investigators for NREGA and 227 investigators for WPI have been recruited on contract basis through campus interview conducted in the state capitals.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

Recommendation No. 4

COLLECTION OF TIMELY UPDATED QUALITY STATISTICS

The Committee feel concerned to note that there is no efficient on-board system in the MOSPI for having quality and concurrent statistical data immediately. The entire planning process envisaged for the growth of the country becomes futile if the data is outdated, as the Planning Commission relies on the statistical data given by the MOSPI. With the information technology resources currently available, developing an effective system of coordination among various Ministries and State Governments for providing quality, reliable and concurrent data instantaneously would not be a difficult task. Building a strong statistical infrastructure with the national statistical system being in sync with the Central Ministries concerned and the State Governments, without any vested interest in the administrative system, is an imminent necessity in the interest of the overall development and growth of the country. The Committee, therefore, urge the MOSPI to formulate a concrete and time bound action plan for developing a unified, effective and efficient system of collection of quality statistics and dissemination of data. The Committee desire to be apprised of the policy measures taken in this direction.

Reply of the Government

The Hon'ble Committee may be aware that statistics is a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution. The Collection of Statistics Act, 1953 has been repealed and a new Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 is planned to be enforced shortly, to facilitate the collection of statistics on economic, demographic, social, scientific and environmental aspects through a statistical survey or otherwise (e.g. through the use of the administrative records). This Act shall apply to any Ministry or Department in the Central Government or to any Ministry or Department in a State Government or Union Territory Administration or any local Government such as Panchayats or Municipalities as the case may be in relation to the collection of Statistics for which a new set of provisions have been included in the Act. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation with the help of its Statistical organs, namely, the Central Statistical Organisation(CSO) and the National Sample Survey Organisation(NSSO), provides the technical resources and manpower support for coordination among various Ministries and State Governments in respect of production and dissemination of quality statistics on most of the areas of current and likely future concern for planned development and policy initiatives. The following are some of the policy measures and actions which have been initiated by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation in order that the administrative system as well as the policy makers can rely upon both the survey based statistics and the administrative statistics for

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the purpose of objective viz. data based/data aided planning at different levels of Governance, under the federal system of the country, right from the levels of local governments and stretching up to the central government.

(i) In 2008, a medium term Vision, Policy and Strategic framework viz. National Strategic Statistical Plan (NSSP) has been formulated based on an extensive process of consultations with all the concerned stakeholders, especially the

(ii) State/UT Governments and the same has been adopted for facilitating an integrated and coherent development of statistical systems and the data /statistics produced by them, across the country and at all levels of administrative functions.

(iii) This Ministry is in the process of having intensive interactions with the State/UT Governments for evolving and developing effective and appropriate strategies and instruments at the State/UT level, in the form of state-specific State Strategic Statistical Plans (SSSPs) to accomplish convergence between the national mechanism and State level mechanisms for collection and compilation of statistics under common standard statistical framework.

(iv) The Ministry is actively engaged in strengthening of the State Statistical Bureaus and the Directorates of Economics & Statistics to function effectively and in a real viz. functional sense as the designated nodal statistical agencies in the States/UTs in respect of collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics in a timely, updated and qualitatively sound manner inter-alia through the optimal utilization of the power and potentials of Information and Technology and use of the state of the art technologies for speedy, error-free and cost effective transmission and passage of data through different levels of administrative set up. The India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) envisaged and designed for the purpose by the Ministry is awaiting approval of the Government of India.

(v) For effective use of registers' based Statistics available with the Local Government Institutions, a High level expert Committee headed by Member, Planning Commission, has submitted a detailed report on Basic Statistics for Local Level Development. The report envisages inter-alia the collection, compilation and transmission of data from the Panchayati Raj institutions in-charge of local governance in the rural areas for micro and local level planning needs of the District and Sub-District level administration in the States. The Ministry is currently engaged in conducting a pilot project in 32 States/UTs as a prelude to introducing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Basic Statistics for Local Level Development.

(vi) This Ministry has posted senior level statistical officers as Statistical Advisors in the Central Ministries for coordination and significant improvement in the Statistical activities of Central Ministries and Departments. They are also responsible for standardization of statistical protocols under the overall framework of the national system. Similarly, a number of senior statistical officers have been posted in the regional and zonal offices of the Field Operations Division(FOD), NSSO inter-alia to ensure effective implementation of central initiatives on statistical matters in their respective/designated States and UTs.

(vii) Under the proposed India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP), as per the stipulated requirements, the participating States/UTs have either already constituted or else, are in the process of constituting High Level Steering Committees for the purpose under the Chairpersonship of the concerned Chief

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Secretaries/Administrators, with the MOSPI, Government of India as also the senior functionaries in-charge of other key line Ministries/Departments of the concerned State/UT being also included in that Committee as members. The said Committee is vested inter-alia with the responsibility to provide the required leadership, direction and guidance to the issue of formulation and implementation of the respective SSSP in the State/UT, under the ISSP.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

Recommendation no. 6

6. The Committee also feel distressed to note that despite repeated requests of the Ministry, eliciting information from NHAI in respect of the budgetary outlays for individual NHDP packages, the organization has failed to furnish the requisite information in this regard. The Committee desire that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation conveys the Committee's displeasure in this regard to the nodal Ministry of the NHAI i.e. the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. The Committee expect a detailed explanation from the nodal Ministry of NHAI for not furnishing the information essential for monitoring implementation of the projects.

Reply of the Government

The National Highway Authority of India does not fall under the Annual Budgetary mechanism for projects as is the case in respect of all other Ministries. The cost estimates of projects are approved by the Board and funds are provided from various resources including petroleum cess, loan etc.. The allocation of funds to projects is contract based depending upon the nature of the project. In case of traditional contract-based projects, the payments are made on the basis of progress made by the Contractors and in case of Build, Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) on Build Own and Operate (BOO)/Build, Operate & Transfer (BOT) projects the funds are brought in by the private sector partners.

According to NHAI, work plans have been prepared for 2009-10 and 2010-11 which seeks target award of project of approximately 12000 KM length costing approximately Rs.1,00,000 crore each year. The Government recently accepted the recommendations of B.K.Chaturvedi Committee regarding funding of NHDP projects under SARDP-NE and in J&K with additional budgetary support over and above the cess that Government provide to NHAI on Yearly basis. The status of National Development Highway Programme (NHDP) is furnished by NHAI is submitted for information of the Committee in Annexure-I. However, in order to get information regularly, this Ministry is taking up the matter with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, as suggested by the Committee.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

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Annexure–I

STATUS OF NHDP

The National Highways have a total length of 70,548 km to serve as the arterial network of the country. The Government of India launched National Highways Development Project (NHDP) to upgrade and strengthen National Highways through various phases of National Highway Development project (NHDP). Overall status of NHDP, as on 31 October 2009 is as under:

Phases	Total Length in km	Date of Approval	Approved Cost (Expenditure till 31.10.2009) in Rs Crore	Length Completed in km	Length under Imp.	To be awarded	Likely date of Completion
I GQ,EW-NS corridors, Port connectivity & others	7,498	12.12.2000	30,300 (36009.16)	7240	252	6	99% of GQ will be completed by Mar -10
II 4/6-laning North South-East West Corridor, Others	6,647	18.12.2003	34,339 (34080.83)	3764	2227	657	Dec - 2010
III A Upgradation, 4/6-laning	4,815	05.03.2005, 27.10.2006 & 12.4.2007	33,069	1045	2605	1165	Dec-2013
III B Upgradation, 4/6-laning	7,294	12.4.2007	47,557	-	-	7294	Dec-2013
Total phase III (phase III A + III B)	12,109	-	80,626 (11051.97)	1045	2605	8459	Dec. 2013
IV 2 - laning with paved shoulders*	20,000	July -2008 for 5000 km	27,800	-	-	-	Dec. 2015 (as per financing plan)
V 6-laning of GQ and High density corridor	6,500	05.10.2006	41,210 (1725.86)	148	882	5470	Dec - 2012
VI Expressways	1000	02.11.2006	16,680 (NIL)	NIL	NIL	NIL	Dec - 2015
VII Ring Roads, Bypasses and flyovers and other structures	700 km of ring roads/ bypass + flyovers	06.12.2007	16,680 (NIL)	-	19	681	Dec-2014

* Not being implemented by NHAI

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Overall Status of GQ, NS-EW Corridors:

Sr. No.	NHDP Component	Total Length (km)	Completed 4 lane (km)	Under implementation		Balance for award of civil works (km)
				Length (km)	No. of contracts	
1	GQ	5846	5736(98.11%)	110	15	-
2	NS-EW	7300	4315	2189	118	637
3	Port connectivity	380	241	133	6	6
4	Other NHs	965	841	104	6	20

NHDP Phase I : NHDP Phase I was approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in December 2000 at an estimated cost of Rs.30,000 crore comprises mostly of GQ (5,846 km) and NS-EW Corridor (981km), port connectivity (356 km) and others (315 km).

Status of NHDP Phase-I is as under:

Corridors	Total Length (in km)	Length Completed (in km)	Length Under implementation (in km)	Achievement 2009-10 (upto Oct, 2009)
Golden Quadrilateral	5846	5736	110	51
North-South & East-West	981	947	34	
Port Connectivity	356	242	108	
Others	315	315		
TOTAL	7498	7240	252	

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NHDP Phase II : NHDP Phase II was approved by CCEA in December 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs.34,339 crore (2002 prices) comprises mostly NS-EW Corridor (6,161 km) and other National Highways of 486 km length, the total length being 6,647 km. The total length of Phase II is 6,647 km.

Status of NHDP Phase-II is as under:

Corridor	Total Length (in km)	Length Completed (in km)	Under Implementation (in km)	Status of Award		
				Length Awarded (in km)	No . Of Contracts	Balance for award
North - South	3010	1625	980	2605	63	405
East-west	3151	1742	1178	2920	78	232
North-South & East-West	6161	3367	2158	5525	141	637
Others	486	397	69	466	10	20
TOTAL	6647	3764	2227	5991	151	657

NHDP Phase-III: Government approved 4 laning of 12109 kms of highways under NHDP Phase III at a total estimated cost of Rs. 80626 crs. NHDP Phase III was targeted for completion by Dec 2013.

Status of NHDP Phase-III is as under:

Corridors	Total Length (in km)	Length Completed (in km)	Under Implementation (in km)	Status of Award		
				Length Awarded (in km)	No. of Contracts	Balance for award
NHDP Phase III	12109	1045	2605	3650	48	8459

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NHDP Phase IV:_CCEA in the month of July-2008 approved 2 Laning with paved shoulders of 5000 km of highways all over India. .

NHDP Phase V:. CCEA approved on 5.10.2006, six laning of 6,500 km includes 5,700 km of GQ and other(800 km) stretches under Phase V at a cost of Rs. 41,210 crore on Design Build Finance and operation (DBFO) basis.

- Six laning of one section of 148 km, viz Vadodra - Surat section of NH-8 falling on GQ has already been awarded on BOT basis during 2006-07.Both the stretches were completed.
- During 2007-08 (concession of 882 km) has been awarded. Total 1030 km is under implementation. Remaining 5470 km to be awarded.
- Phase – V is targeted for completion by December 2012.

NHDP Phase VI: Govt. approved construction of 1000 km of Expressway under NHDP Phase-VI at a cost of Rs. 16,680 crore on DBFO basis. NHDP Phase-VI is targeted for completion by December, 2015.

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Recommendation No. 8

ECONOMIC CENSUS

The Committee note that too much time is taken in releasing the final results of the Economic Census Surveys. While the 5th Economic Census was conducted during 2005, the final results of the survey were released only during May, 2008. A long time lag in releasing the results of the economic census would defeat the essence and purpose of the survey data by making it outdated. As the data is used in formulating developmental/welfare oriented plans and programmes, the Committee recommend that the process of releasing the economic census should be done as early as possible. The Committee hope that the 6th Economic Census which is currently being undertaken would be expedited and completed during the 11th Five Year Plan itself.

Reply of the Government

The Sixth Economic Census is proposed to be conducted by the CSO during XI five year plan. Based on the experience in the 5th Economic Census and past trends, it is estimated that the 6th Economic Census will involve enumeration of around 45 million establishments spread across all the States and Union Territories. More than 4 lakh enumerators will have to be engaged for carrying out the field work. The Planning and designing of the survey, imparting of training to more than 4 lakh field enumerators and a few thousand supervisors both from the Centre and the States, will take, at least 6 months. The survey work, as per the experience of 5th Economic Census, will take about a year. After collection of the data, the scrutiny of schedules, scanning of the schedules, processing of the data, table generation and preparation of the report would require at least 6 months time. In view of this the entire operation starting from planning and design of the census to release of the final results may take two to three years.

Field work for the census is expected to be completed by the end of XI Five Year Plan. However, processing of data and release of the results may spill over to the first year of the 12th Five Year Plan.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

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CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

-NIL-

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CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation No. 1

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

There has been a huge shortfall in utilization of the budgeted expenditure of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in the last three years. The shortfall witnessed in the Plan Expenditure as compared to the budgeted estimates has been to the extent of Rs. 27.76 crore (33%) in 2006-2007, Rs.22.01 crore (24%) in 2007-2008 and Rs.54.60 crore (42% - anticipated) in 2008-2009. Acknowledging that the Ministry had difficulties in absorbing the allocated funds, the Secretary, MOSPI attributed the problem faced in the recent period in particular, inter-alia to the delay in establishing the Central Training Academy for Statistics, and in implementing the World Bank aided programme for strengthening the statistical agencies of the States / Statistical system of the country i.e. India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP). What is worrisome to note is that the under utilization of the budgeted plan funds of the Ministry has been mainly on account of slippages in implementing schemes that have a significant bearing on improving the reliability and adequacy of statistics. There has been recurring and substantial under-utilisation of the Budget allocations under the plan head, Strengthening of Data Processing and Storage and Dissemination of Computer Centre, the entire allocated amount of Rs. 30 crore for the India Statistical Strengthening Project was surrendered in the last year; and the scheme, Basic Statistics for Local Level Development could not be taken up for effective implementation, despite the substantial budgetary allocation made in the last two years i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09. Given these facts, it is an imminent necessity on the part of the Government to undertake concerted action for ensuring timely completion of projects and schemes. It is also necessary on the part of the Government to undertake an effective exercise for identifying the shortcomings in the mechanism of budgetary planning and ensuring proper utilization of funds so as to avoid large variations in the Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and actual expenditure. The Committee would like to be apprised of the concrete steps taken in this direction and their effectiveness in overcoming the shortcomings in a time bound programme.

Reply of the Government

The delay in operationalising the Central Training Facility at Greater Noida was entirely due to delay on the part of CPWD in handing over the building to this Ministry. The building was supposed to be handed over to the Ministry by the CPWD in October 2008 but the handing over after rectification of all defects was finally done by the CPWD only in Feb 2009.

The plan scheme " India Statistical Strengthening Project " could not be taken up for implementation in 2007-08 & 2008-09 due to procedural delays which came in the way of EFC approval of the scheme.

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The Planning Commission did not accord clearance for operationalising the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) 'Basic Statistics for Local Level Development' as a full fledged scheme in the 11th Plan . As per the advice of the Planning Commission, instead a pilot scheme was implemented with the same name with the objective of identifying the data sources at village level . This was launched in 2008-09 and was implemented in 32 States/UTs. The outlay provided by Planning Commission was Rs.5.00 Crore during 2008-09, which was revised to Rs.4.09 Crore in the RE Stage. Actual expenditure was Rs.3.20 Crore.

It is submitted to the Hon'ble Committee that in spite of the best efforts by this Ministry to adhere to stipulated schedules and ensure optimum utilization of plan funds, slippages which have occurred are entirely beyond the control of this Ministry.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

Recommendation No. 5

MONITORING OF PROJECTS

As per the information furnished to the Committee by the Ministry, 232 Central Sector Projects, scheduled for completion in 2008-09 have witnessed time-overruns ranging from 1 to 180 months, with substantial concurrent cost overruns as compared to the initially estimated project costs. Non-availability of adequate land and funds, issues relating to rehabilitation of the displaced etc., which have been mentioned as contributory factors to the delays in implementing projects is indicative of shortcomings in the pre-approval stage of the projects. These issues need to be addressed in the project conceptualization and approval stage. Other issues, which include, law and order problems, slow progress made by contractors, lack of proper response from the State Governments, etc. which have led to time-overruns and cost escalation of projects can be resolved by ensuring effective monitoring and initiating appropriate corrective measures, and by taking periodic and regular follow up action with the State Governments on issues concerning the States. Apparently, there are serious shortcomings in the mechanisms of inter-ministerial as well as inter-state co-ordination for resolving the problems in implementing projects. The Committee desire that appropriate corrective steps are taken for addressing issues contributing to delays and cost escalation in implementing projects. The Committee also desire to be apprised of the action taken against those held responsible for the lapses which led to cost escalation and time overrun of the projects.

Reply of the Government

In view of the changed facts the Hon'ble Committee is hereby informed that as on 30.6.2009, 951 Central Sector Projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above are on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 466 projects with respect to their approved completion schedule. The cost overrun of these delayed projects is of the order of Rs. 37,693 crore which is only 11.97% of the approved cost. It is also informed that overall cost overrun in all projects together has been continuously declining from 62% in March 1991 to 12.10% in June, 2009 which is the lowest so far. As already informed earlier, appropriate

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corrective measures have been taken by the Government to eradicate deficiencies in project formulation and implementation, obtain all clearances and acquire land as far as possible to avoid delays in implementation. The major land acquisition problems are being experienced by the national highway projects for which the following steps have been initiated at the level of Ministry of Surface Transport /NHAI

a. Regional offices of NHAI have been set up at 10 different locations in the country to look after implementation of projects. Necessary powers have been delegated to the Regional Officers for this purpose.

b. The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Regional Officers, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHAI. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHAI, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways and Minister, Shipping Road Transport & Highways.

c. State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the NHDP such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest / pollution / environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.

d. A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre - State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of ROBs .

e. The procedure for issue of Land Acquisition notifications was simplified. Earlier all the notification under NH Act were vetted by the Ministry of Law. An amendment was made in the Allocation of Business Rules by which these notifications are not required to be sent to the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law approved standard formats of various notifications keeping in view the similar nature of the notifications of Land Acquisition.

f. Special land acquisition units are being set up to expedite land acquisition for various projects. In order to expedite land acquisition, policy has been introduced empowering Regional CGMs of NHAI to accept awards passed by competent authority for land acquisition under section 3(G) of NH Act for amount upto Rs. 10 crore per case.

g. To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHAI to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. MOU has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs. A system of monthly coordination meeting between Nodal Officers of NHAI and Railways was introduced to expedite clearances.

h. Action has been taken against non performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in existing contracts.

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i. Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) and relaxation in minimum IPC amount.

In regard to the fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns in projects, it is again being informed that a mechanism of Standing Committees has been set up in the Ministries chaired by the Secretary or Additional Secretary of the concerned administrative Ministry with members drawn from the Planning Commission, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Ministry of Finance. The Committee goes into the reasons and the factors and identifies individual or the agencies responsible for causing delays and cost overrun. The recommendations of the Committee are implemented by the administrative Ministries and thereafter the revised cost estimates are submitted for approval of the Government.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

Recommendation No. 7

PRICE INDICES

Despite the repeated assurance given to the Committee by the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the process of compiling and bringing out separate Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas [CPI (Urban) and CPI (Rural)] is yet to materialize. Earlier, in 2007, the Secretary, MOSPI had assured the Committee that the indices would be readied for release by the end of the year, which was later shifted to end of 2008. Now, as per the information furnished by the Ministry, the indices are expected to be brought out in 2010-11. The inordinate delay in formulating the Consumer Price Indices and the abnormal variations witnessed in the prices of food items in particular has necessitated shifting the base year of the proposed indices to 2009. Evidently, no serious efforts appear to have been made for overcoming the problem of shortage of manpower for carrying out the market surveys for collecting data for creating the indices. Having a realistic projection of the consumer inflation in the country being an urgent necessity, the Committee expect that the Ministry would, at least now, take stringent measures for expediting the work of compilation of the separate Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas.

Reply of the Government

CPI for urban areas

CPI (Urban) would be compiled for each State/UT as well as at all India level. Weighting diagrams (consumption pattern) of the CPI (Urban) have been derived from the results of the NSS 61st round of Consumer Expenditure Survey (2004-05). All cities/towns having population (2001 Population Census) more than 9 lakh and all state/UT capitals not covered therein were selected purposively. In all 310 towns have been selected either on

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purposive or random basis from which 1114 quotations (price schedules) are canvassed every month.

Regular price and rent data are being collected by the NSSO (FOD). After selection of base year and also compilation of base year prices, new series of CPI (Urban) would be compiled. It is expected that trial indices of CPI(Urban) would be available in 2010.

CPI for rural areas

CPI (Rural) would also be compiled for all states/UTs and all India. Weighting diagrams of the CPI (Rural) have also been derived from the results of the NSS 61st round of Consumer Expenditure Survey (2004-05). With a view to have a workload within manageable limits and considering the fact that the CPI (Rural) would provide the price changes for the entire rural population of the country, a total of 1183 villages have been selected at all India level. The broad criterion of selection of villages is to have representation of all the districts with in State/UT and therefore two villages from each district adjusted on the basis of rural population of the State/UT have been selected randomly from different tehsils.

As field investigators of NSSO (FOD) were not available for price collection in the rural areas, this work has been entrusted to the Department of Posts. After training by NSSO (FOD), price data collection work has started from October 2009.It is expected that trial indices of CPI(Rural) would be available in the beginning of 2011.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation OM No.G-20017/3/2009-B&F dated 8.1.2010

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CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

-NIL-

New Delhi;
15 April, 2010
25 Chaitra, 1932 (Saka)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Finance.

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Minutes of the Seventeenth sitting of the Standing Committee on Finance

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 15th April, 2010 from 1530 hrs. to 1700 hrs.

PRESENT

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Harischandra Chavan
3. Shri Khagen Das
4. Shri Nishikant Dubey
5. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab
6. Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao
7. Dr. M. Thambidurai

RAJYA SABHA

8. Shri S.S. Ahluwalia
9. Shri Mahendra Mohan
10. Dr. Mahendra Prasad
11. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri A.K. Singh	-	Joint Secretary
2.	Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar	-	Additional Director
3.	Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan	-	Deputy Secretary
4.	Smt. B. Visala	-	Deputy Secretary

2. The Committee took up the following draft Reports for consideration and adoption:-

(i) Draft Report on Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Bill, 2009;

(ii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Financial Services, Expenditure and Disinvestment);

(iii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue);

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(iv) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Planning;

(v) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation;

(vi) Draft Reports on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs;

(vii) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Financial Services, Expenditure and Disinvestment);

(viii) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Second Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue);

(ix) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Planning;

(x) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; and

(xi) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

3. The Committee adopted the draft reports at (i), (ii) and (iii) above with few modifications/amendments as indicated in Annexures I, II and III. The Committee adopted the remaining draft reports without any change. The Committee authorized the Chairman to present all the reports to Parliament in the current session.

The Committee adjourned at 1700 hours.

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ANNEXURE

(*Vide* Para 3 of the Introduction)

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FOURTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA) ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2009-2010) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

		Total	% of Total
(i)	Total number of Recommendations	8	
(ii)	Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government (*Vide* Recommendations at Sl. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8)	5	62.50
(iii)	Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	Nil	0.00
(iv)	Recommendations/observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee (*Vide* Recommendations at Sl. No. 1,5 and 7)	3	37.50
(v)	Recommendation/observation in respect of which final reply of the Government is still awaited	Nil	00.00